

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANAGU 01630 162136 Z

67

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 PC-04

AID-20 NIC-01 OMB-01 T-03 RSR-01 INRE-00 /112 W
----- 076583

P R 162100 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1002

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 1630

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, NU

SUBJECT: WEEKLY POLITICAL SUMMARY, MARCH 9-16, 1973

REF: MANAGUA 1494

1. THE AGUERO AND PAGUAGA FACTIONS CONTINUED TO JOUST FOR POSITION WITHIN THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY (PCN) THROUGHOUT THE PAST WEEK. AGUERO' S VISITS TO THE DEPARTMENTS TO MEET WITH PARTY LEADERS AND CONVENTION DELEGATES AND RIVAL MEETINGS STAGED BY THE PAGUAGA GROUP

REVEALED THAT THE CURRENT BREAKDOWN OF THE PCN IS ROUGHLY ABOUT 50 PERCENT FOR AGUERO, 30 PERCENT FOR PAGUAGA AND 20 PERCENT UN-COMMITTED AND TRYING TO AVOID TAKING SIDES. DEFECTIONS OF SEVERAL DEPARTMENTAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PCN DIRECTORATE INCREASED PAGUAGA' S SUPPORT TO 10 OF THE 25 REGULAR MEMBERS, AND PAGUAGA SPOKESMAN CONTINUE TO PREDICT THAT THEY WILL SHORTLY HAVE A MAJORITY. THE PAGUAGA GROUP INITIATED ITS PURGE OF AGUERISTAS HOLDING THE 60 PARTY PATRONAGE POSITIONS IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH. THE PAGUAGA DIRECTORATE SUBMITTED A REQUEST TO THE NATIONAL GOVERNING COUNCIL TO REPLACE 7 OF THEM WITH LOYAL PAGUAGA MEN AND IT WAS READILY ACCEPTED. IN THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY, THE PAGUAGA FACTION GROUP HAS RUN UP AGAINST A HARD CORE OF
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MANAGU 01630 162136 Z

DEDICATED AGUERISTAS AND IT APPEARS TO HAVE NO MORE THAN 10 OF THE PARTY'S 40 DEPUTIES. THIS SITUATION GIVES BIRTH TO RUMOURS THAT PAGUAGA WILL ASK SOMOZA TO APPROVE A MASS REMOVAL OF THE AGUERO DEPUTIES. GENERAL SOMOZA, HOWEVER, HAS TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THAT THERE WOULD DEFINITELY BE NO REPEAT NO PURGE OF DEPUTIES. COMMENT: THE PAGUAGA GROUP IS GRADUALLY GAINING GROUND AND TIME APPEARS TO BE ON THEIR SIDE, BUT THEY OBVIOUSLY NEED MORE TIME TO GAIN MAJORITY CONTROL OF THE PARTY. END COMMENT.

2. THE SOCIAL CHRISTIAN PARTY (PSC) RELEASED A STATEMENT SETTING FORTH THE PARTY'S POST-EARTHQUAKE STANCE. THE MANIFESTO CALLS FOR INCREASED PARTY ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITY; SUPPORTS THE RECONSTRUCTION, BUT CALLS FOR AN OVERHAUL OF SOCIAL SYSTEMS AS WELL AS REBUILDING OF PHYSICAL DAMAGE; SURFACES SOME IMPORTANT QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SHAPE AND FORM OF FUTURE POLITICS IN NICARAGUA, CALLING FOR AN END TO MARTIAL LAW AND A RETURN TO NORMALCY; REITERATES THE RIGHT OF NICARAGUANS TO ELECT THEIR GOVERNMENT; AND REFERS TO THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY CRISIS AS A "CHANGE IN THE GREEN PUPPETS" WHICH STEMS FROM THE MEDDLING OF NORTH AMERICAN IMPERIALISM.

3. THE DECREE LAW BANNING "ANY MEETING OR PUBLIC ACTIVITY OF A POLITICAL NATURE OR DISTURBING OF PUBLIC ORDER" UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 1973 BECAME EFFECTIVE MARCH 9. THE FIRST TEST OF THE LAW, WHICH PROVIDES FINES OF UP TO 5 THOUSAND CORDOBAS FOR A FIRST OFFENSE AND A FINE PLUS 30 DAYS IMPRISONMENT FOR REPEATED VIOLATIONS, WILL PROBABLY BE IN CONNECTION WITH THE PCN NATIONAL CONVENTION, WHICH AGUERO STILL PLANS TO HOLD ON APRIL 1.

4. OPPOSITION LA PRENSA, WIDELY CRITICIZED FOR ITS TIMIDITY LAST WEEK, GRADUALLY ASSUMED A BOLDER AND MORE CRITICAL STANCE. EDITORIALY PEDRO JOAQUIN CHAMORRO MAINTAINED THAT THE TIME HAD COME TO DEFINE THE STATE OF EMERGENCY IN A MORE LEGAL AND DETAILED MANNER AND TO ESTABLISH A MORE NORMAL, INSTITUTIONALIZED GOVERNMENT AND JURIDICAL PROCEDURES TO DEAL WITH IT.
SHELTON

CONFIDENTIAL

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: martinjw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MANAGU01630
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: MANAGUA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730332/aaaahzsw.tel
Line Count: 106
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 MANAGUA 1494
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinjw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16-Jan-2002 by willialc>; APPROVED <22 FEB 2002 by martinjw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971215
Subject: WEEKLY POLITICAL SUMMARY, MARCH 9-16, 1973
TAGS: PINT, NU
To: ARA
GUATEMALA
SAN JOSE
SAN SALVADOR
SECSTATE WASHDC
TEGUCIGALPA
USCINCSO FOR POLAD

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005